Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 01474 011636Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FAA-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 //067 W

-----020157 093853 /63

R 011015Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY KABUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1609 INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI AMEMBASSY THERAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, AF, PK

SUBJ: PAK-AFGHAN AIR SERVICE

1. FOLLOWING SECOND ROUND OF TALKS BETWEEN PAKISTANI AND AFGHAN TECHNICAL PERSONNEL (FIRST SESSION WAS IN RAWALPINDI LAST DECEMBER, SECOND IN KABUL IN FEBRUARY), BOTH SIDES HAVE REFERRED PROPOSAL FOR RESUMPTION OF AIR SERVICES BACK TO THEIR CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES FOR APPROVAL. ACCORDING TO SOURCES IN ARIANA, A DECISION IS EXPECTED WITHIN TWO TO THREE WEEKS.

2. COMMENT: RESUMPTION OF SERVICES WILL NOT RPT NOT ENTAIL NEGOTIATION OF A NEW AIR AGREEMENT, BUT RATHER, SIMPLY TAKING THE EXISTING AIR AGREEMENT -- WHICH WAS NEVER ABROGATED -- OFF THE SHELF AND RE-INSTITUTING IT. IF THE TEHCNICAL LEVEL HAS REACHED AGREEMENT ON QUESTIONS SUCH AS FREQUENCY OF FLIGHTS, PASSENGER LOADS, AND THE LIKE, THIS SHOULD MAKE A FAVORABLE DECISION BY THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES RELATIVELY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 KABUL 01474 011636Z

EASY. RESUMPTION OF AIR SERVICE WOULD NOT ONLY BE WELCOME AND BENEFICIAL ECONOMICALLY, BUT IT WOULD ALSO BE A SIGNIFICANT STEP IN THE PROCESS OF PAK-AFGHAN RAPPROCHMENT.

ELIOT

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:

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